RECEIVED AND FILED WITH THE N.J. BOARD OF DENTISTRY ON 10-9-01 cm

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF DENTISTRY

IN THE MATTER OF

Richard H. Williams, D.D.S. License No. DI 10949

LICENSED TO PRACTICE IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY Administrative Action

FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

This matter was opened by the New Jersey State Board of Dentistry ("Board") upon review of information that Richard H. Williams, D.D.S. ("respondent"), had failed to make payment for renewal of his dental registration for the 1997-1999 renewal period. On January 5, 2001, the Board entered a Provisional Order of Discipline based on that failure. Respondent was served with the order and has failed to make any submission in response to the order. Based on that failure, the Board will finalize its Provisional Order.

FINDING OF FACT

- 1. Respondent has been a licensee of the Board at all times relevant to this matter.
- 2. On or about August 12, 1998 respondent submitted check # 342 in the amount of \$225 to the Board for the 1997-1999 renewal period, that check, which included \$100 renewal fee, \$100 late fee and a \$25 branch fee, was returned as unpaid due to insufficient funds.
- 3. By letter dated October 21,1998 the Board notified respondent that check #342 in the amount of \$225 had not been honored. The Board requested respondent to resubmit a check for \$225. Respondent did not respond to this request.
- 4. By regular and certified mail dated December 2, 1998, the Board sent a certified letter, return receipt requested, to respondent at his office address, 217 Church Street, Plainfield, New Jersey, informing him that he had failed to resubmit the fees for the 1997-1999 biennial renewal

period and that if a certified check or money order was not received by December 18, 1998, the matter will be referred to the Board for initiation of disciplinary action. The certified mail return receipt indicated the letter was received at respondent's office on December 4, 1998. The respondent did not respond to this request.

- 5. On January 5, 2001 the Board filed a Provisional Order of Discipline based on respondent's failure to submit payment for registration fees and late fees for the 1997-1999 renewal period. That order was sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to Dr. Richard Williams, 85 Portland Ave, P.O. Box 425, Bergenfield, New Jersey 007621-0425. The return receipt card was returned to the Board and reflects a delivery date of January 24, 2001.
- 6. Respondent has not submitted a response to the Board within the time contemplated by the Provisional Order or at any time thereafter.

CONCLUSION OF LAW

Respondent's actions in failing to pay the required fees and failing to respond to the Board's request for the submission of the renewal fees for the 1997-1999 renewal period constitutes professional misconduct and provides grounds for discipline pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e).

IT IS THEREFORE, on this DAY OF October 2001,

HEREBY ORDERED that::

- 1. Respondent's registration as a dentist in the State of New Jersey is hereby suspended indefinitely as of October 17, 2001. That suspension shall continue until such time as respondent submits to the Board the sum of \$725, which amount reflects the \$225 registration fee and late fee and penalty as set forth in paragraph 2 below. Respondent shall follow the directives of licensees whose licenses have been suspended or revoked which are attached to and made a part of this order.
- 2. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$500 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-22 for engaging in professional misconduct by failing to submit registration fees and failing to comply

with Board requests for those fees. Payment for the penalty and the past due registration fees shall be made by certified check or money order payable to the State of New Jersey and submitted to Kevin B. Earle, Executive Director, Board of Dentistry, P.O. Box 45005, Sixth Floor, 124 Halsey Street Newark, New Jersey. Upon receipt of payment of the penalty and fees, the Board will issue a letter indicating that the suspension has been lifted.

3. Failure to comply with the terms of this order may result in additional disciplinary action by the Board.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Emil G. Cannetta D.D.S.

President



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State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY

DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

DONALD T. DIFRANCESCO

Acting Governor

DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY

124 HALSEY STREET, 6TH FLOOR, NEWARK NJ

JOHN J. FARMER, JR. Attorney General MARK S. HERR Director

December 6, 2001

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 45005 Newark, NJ 07101

(973) 504-6405

Dr. Richard H. Williams P.O. Box 425 85 Portland Ave. T Bergenfield, New Jersey 07621-2306

Dear Dr. Willams:

This is in follow-up to the Board's Final Order of Discipline filed on October 9, 2001 which suspended your license indefinitely as of October 17, 2001. This suspension continued until such time as you submitted payment of the registration fee, late fee and penalty in the sum of \$725.00.

This letter will confirm receipt of the \$725.00 and that the suspension on your license has been lifted as of December 5, 2001.

If you should have any questions, please contact this office.

Very truly yours,

STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Kevin B. Earle Executive Director

KBE:cm